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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/033,905	01/03/2002	Akira Karasudani	1614.1207	9594

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EXAMINER

AL HASHEMI, SANA A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2164

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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05/25/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/033,905

Applicant(s)

KARASUDANI ET AL.

Examiner

Sana Al-Hashemi

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE ____ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 March 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2-4, 7-9, 12-14, 17-19 and 21-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2-4, 7-9, 12-14, 17-19 and 21-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is issued in responds to applicant's amendment filed 10/10/06.
2. Claims 2-4, 7-9, 12-14, 17-19, 21-32 were amended, and 1, 5-6, 10-11, 15-16, and 20 have been canceled. No claims have been added.
3. Claims 2-4, 7-9, 12-14, 17-19, 21-32 are pending.

Response to Amendment

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 2-4, 7-9, 12-14, 17-19, 21-32 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2-4, 7-9, 12-14, 17-19, and 21-32, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Elko et al. (US Patent No. 5,537,574 issued July 16th, 1996), in view of Advance file system implementer's guide, Part 8 published Dec. 01, 2001.

Regarding Claims 25, 29, 30, 31, and 32, Elko discloses a file device that records a file to an external storage device divided into blocks, comprising:

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block allocation means for allocating blocks in the external storage device to record the file in the storage means (Fig. 1, CPC-1, CPC-M, column 5, lines 43-47, and Fig. 2, 206, wherein the expanded storage corresponds to the external storage, Elko);

management information production means for producing management information designating blocks allocated by the block allocation means (Fig. 1, DASD Director, column 5, lines 48-53, Elko); and

storage control means for recording in the blocks in the external storage device the file, after recording the management information and sequence information indicating a sequence in which the file is to be recorded in the blocks (Fig. 1, 101, column 5, 6, lines 61-67, 1-1-4, Elko). However, Elko is silent with respect to the storage being an external storage device, wherein the external storage device is external to the storage control means. On the other hand Common threads: Advanced file system implementer's guide, Part 8 under data = ordered mode line 2, discloses a recording the data out to a disk and data = journal mode which corresponds to the claimed limitation of recording in the blocks in the external storage device the file, after recording the management information and sequence information indicating a sequence in which the file is to be recorded in the blocks. The Advanced file system implementer's guide reference and the Elko reference are analogues art since both arts are in the same endeavor. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the advanced file system implementer's guide teaching in the Elko system. Skilled artisan would have been motivated to address problem of reducing or eliminating

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remote requests by a process directed toward a list which is empty. And to solve the corruption problem users may have, and to save the data stored to an out disk as suggested by the Advanced file system implementer's guide data=write back mode and data= ordered mode.

Regarding Claims 2, 7, 12, and 17, the combination of Elko in view of Advanced file system implementer's guide discloses a file device, wherein the storage control means attaches information indicating a preceding block and information indicating a size of data to be recorded in a block to the data recorded in the block and records to the storage control means (column 16, lines 40-48, Elko).

Regarding Claims 3, 8, 13, and 18, the combination of Elko in view of Advanced file system implementer's guide discloses a file device, wherein the storage control means updates the management information so that, when a data-unrecorded block occurs among the blocks allocated by the block allocation means when recording the file, the unrecorded block becomes an unused block (column 17, lines 2-8, Elko¹).

Regarding Claims 4, 9, 14, and 19, the combination of Elko in view of Advanced file system implementer's guide discloses a file device, wherein the storage control means has storage sequence setting means for setting a storage sequence of data that makes up the file, the data that makes up the file being allocated among blocks to be recorded by the block allocation means based on the sequence set by the storage sequence setting means and recorded to the allocated blocks (Fig. 32, 3201, column 51, lines 14-19, Elko).

Regarding Claim 7, the combination of Elko in view of Advanced file system implementer's guide discloses a computer implemented data access method wherein said

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recording in the blocks with the file attaches to each block that records with the file, data indicating a preceding block and data indicating a size of data to be recorded therein (column 16, lines 40-48, Elko).

Regarding Claim 21, 22, 23, and 24, the combination of Elko in view of Advanced file system implementer's guide discloses a file device further comprising:

A file accessing unit accessing the blocks in sequential order according to the management information to read the file and, when either the information indicating the preceding block does not indicate the preceding block in the file or the information indicating a size of data recorded in the one or more blocks is not within an actual block size range, stopping the reading of the file and updating the management information so that succeeding blocks become unused blocks (Col. 29, lines 30-39, Elko).

Regarding Claim 26, the combination of Elko in view of Advanced file system implementer's guide discloses at least one computer-readable medium wherein said recording of the sequence information includes recording an identifier of a preceding block in each block after an initial block (Fig. 9, 901, Elko).

Regarding Claim 27, the combination of Elko in view of Advanced file system implementer's guide discloses at least one computer-readable medium wherein said recording further includes recording in each block, size information indicating an amount of data recorded therein (Col. 16, lines 38-49, Elko)

Regarding Claim 28, the combination of Elko in view of Advanced file system implementer's guide discloses a file device, having file readout means, such that when

¹ The process of submitting the "cache miss" which indicates the data does not reside in the cache reads on

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information indicating the preceding block does not indicate the preceding block as a result of the block being accessed in sequence depending on the management information, the file being read out, and data being read out from the block, or when information indicating the size of the data recorded in the block is outside the actual block size range, the file readout means halts readout of the file and updates the management information so that subsequent blocks become unused blocks (column 51, lines 20-38, Elko²).

Response to Arguments

Applicant argues the applied art fails to disclose or teach the newly amended limitation.

Examiner disagrees. The newly amended limitations have been address in the rejection above.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

unrecorded block which indicates the block "unused".

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however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

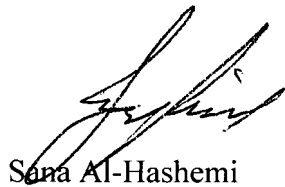
Points of Contact

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sana Al-Hashemi whose telephone number is (571) 272-4013.

The examiner can normally be reached on 8Am-4:30Pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Rones can be reached on (571) 272-4085. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Sana Al-Hashemi
Primary Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2100
May 7, 2007

² The step of setting the field to 0 since the page can not be located corresponds to unused block, since the block is stored with no data.